

REMARKS

Summary

New clean and marked-up copies of a substitute specification are being submitted that address the Examiner's objection to the previous substitute specification. Since there are no other outstanding issues, the application is now in allowable form.

Status of the claims

Claims 1-35 are pending. Claims 1, 3, 5, 6, 8-16, 19, 21, 23, 24, and 26-33 have been amended to improve their form. Claims 1, 16, and 19 are independent.

Requested action

Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to reconsider and withdraw the outstanding objections in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Substitute specification objections

The Examiner objects to the substitute specification because he did not receive a clean copy thereof¹ and because the pages of the substitute specification corresponding to pages 109-

¹For the record, Applicant submitted a clean copy of the July 22, 2003 substitute specification, as indicated on the attached stamped postcard receipt, but apparently the Examiner did not receive it. Applicant is not resubmitting the clean copy of this substitute specification because Applicant has revised the substitute specification to overcome the Examiner's objections in the January 2, 2004 Office Action. But Applicant is filing herewith clean and marked-up versions of a new substitute specification.

126 of the originally-filed specification are not in a format appropriate for the Detailed Description of the Preferred Embodiments.

In response, while not conceding the propriety of the objections, the undersigned telephoned the Examiner and he tentatively agreed that amending the specification as has been done in the attached clean and marked-up copies of the substitute specification would obviate the objections.

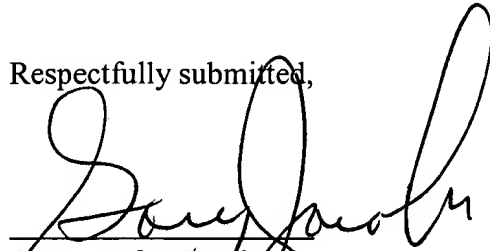
Claim Amendments

Applicants have also amended Claims 1, 3, 5, 6, 8-16, 19, 21, 23, 24, and 26-33 to improve their form, and have amended paragraph 239 to correct a minor typographical error.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, the application is now in allowable form. Therefore, early passage to issue is respectfully solicited.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,


Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 28,861

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3801
Facsimile No.: (212) 218-2200

DC Main # 133828



Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Date 7, 22, 03
Mo. Day Yr.

Atty. Docket W684, W3286

Application No. 091988, 342

Sir:

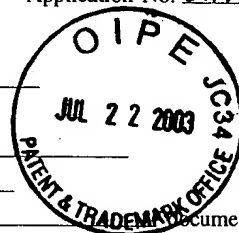
Kindly acknowledge receipt of the accompanying:

- ☐ Response to Official Action. _____
- ☐ Check for \$ _____ (claims fee)
- ☐ Petition under 37 CFR 1.136 and Check for \$ _____
- ☐ Notice of Appeal and Check for \$ _____
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement, PTO-1449 and _____ documents
- ☐ Claim for priority and certified copies of _____ priority applications
- ☒ Issue fee transmittal and Check for \$ 1615 -

☒ Other (specify) By Acknowledgment of Amendment After Allowance, Submission of
Specification, clean + marked up copy of specification,
Submission of Corrected Final Drawing, 5 sheet of drawing, Request for Appraisal
of drawing + 5 sheet
by placing your receiving date stamp hereon and returning to deliverer of drawing

Atty. GUT/ey

Due Date 7, 22, 03
Mo. Day Yr.



FOHS-D-00

BEST AVAILABLE COPY